Recycling of Hospital Wastes

1457. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hospital wastes like syringes, needles, glucose and blood transfusion pipes are being reused in most of the hospitals risking spread of killer diseases like AIDS, Hepatitis B and a host of other equally life-threatening diseases for quite some time;

(b) whether there is flourishing recycle trade of hospital wastes in the country, despite Supreme Court orders to the contrary; and

(c) the Government's action plan to curb such activity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests have informed that there is no authentic information about recycling of injections, needles, syringes, used cotton etc.

(c) The Government has requested all States/Union Territories to take necessary steps to ensure that the rules as stipulated in the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 are implemented in letter and spirit and to set up an inspection procedure to ensure that disposable itmes are segregated and treated properly before disposal so that the same are rendered unusable.

Decrease in the number of Hospital Beds

†1458. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published under the title, "Bistron ki sankhya me vridhi ke

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

bajay 40 fisdi kami", appearing in the Dainik Jagran of 28th June, 2000, if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps in this regard when the abatment of tuberculosis is included in Government scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) The news-item in Dainik Jagran captioned "Bistron ki sankhya me vridhi ke bajay 40 fisdi kami" that appeared on 20th June, 2000 pertains to Rajan Babu TB Hospital which is under the administrative control of Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

As per the information received from MCD, out of 1155 indoor beds in the Hospital, more than 80% of the beds are being utilised. The remaining beds are not being utilised at present due to civil works in progress. To improve patient care services the hospital is procuring Water Coolers, Desert Coolers, Water purifier etc. as well as furniture, wheel chairs, trolleys in a phased manner within the allocaiton of funds available for this purpose. The Engineering Division of the Hospital is procuring a generator for use in Hospital in order to solve the problem of cuts in electricity supply. A buffer stock of 100 ceiling fans is also being built up to meet the needs of the Hospital.

Under the National TB Control Programme the Central Government gives priority to domiciliary treatment through DOTS. strategy. Only complicated and serious cases are referred for admission in TB Hospitals.

Population Control

1459. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to go ahead with population control but because of their adverse political fall-out, Government would seek consensus on population control;

(b) whether it is a fact that education and better maternal and